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clauses of the constitution with names of unimportant state statesmen are not worth the labor bestowed upon them. But, by and large, the author has accomplished a stupendous task carefully and well. J. P. C., JR.

A SELECTION OF CASES ON DOMESTIC RELATIONS AND THE LAW OF PERSONS. By Edwin H. Woodruff. Second Edition, enlarged. New York: Baker, Voorhis & Company. 1905. pp. xv, 624. 8vo.

The second edition of Professor Woodruff's "Selection of Cases on Domestic Relations and the Law of Persons" includes the same topics as the first edition, which has heretofore been noticed in this magazine.<sup>1</sup> This edition has been enlarged by the addition of a considerable number of recent cases, especially on the conflict of jurisdiction in divorce actions, and by brief notes. The excellent selection of cases in the first edition is maintained in the added cases. The space given the various topics is well proportioned. That the book is in its second edition and is in use in eight schools is sufficient evidence of its merit. It may not be unfitting, however, to refer to two features in which it would seem possible to improve it.

In common with a number of other case-books, Professor Woodruff has inserted extracts from decisions without any statement of the facts on which the decision is based. One of these, for example, is the extract from the decision in *Sims v. Ricketts*, p. 159. It is admirable in itself, but in a case-book for teaching by the inductive method it is submitted that such extracts are of little value. If carried to an extreme, the result would be neither case-book nor text-book. Such extracts cannot be of much service in discussion and may confuse the student.

The second point is the suggestion that in an appendix there be given a complete statement of all the statutes of some jurisdiction on the law of Husband and Wife and of Marriage. This can be done in a few pages. The legislation is more nearly similar than may be supposed, and would do much to emphasize the excellent exposition of the common law in Professor Woodruff's cases, and assist in showing the tendency of legislation in recent years. N. A.

A TREATISE ON THE INCORPORATION AND ORGANIZATION OF CORPORATIONS created under the "Business Corporation Acts" of the several states and territories of the United States. By Thomas G. Frost. Second Edition, enlarged and revised. Boston: Little, Brown and Company. 1906. pp. xv, 698. 8vo.

The author in this book has accomplished a valuable work in presenting a comparative analysis of the incorporation acts of the various commonwealths. He has gathered together and tabulated in an admirable way much practical information concerning them. The forms for corporate charters, resolutions, etc., prepared by him, cannot but be helpful to the practitioner. The author is to be complimented upon his method of analysis, and for the clearness with which he expresses himself. In this regard his work might well be taken as a model by many of the text-writers of the present day. He has pointed out similarities and dissimilarities, wise and unwise provisions, in the different incorporation statutes, and it is to be hoped that his work is the beginning of an attempt to bring about some uniformity in the corporation laws of our different states. The author's treatment of the very perplexing problem of collateral attack upon corporation organization, stockholders' liability, and the control of

<sup>1</sup> 11 HARV. L. REV. 204.

the state over domestic and foreign corporations, is a pleasing departure from the hackneyed method of a number of other writers who have given these subjects attention. His views are in some respects advanced, but in general he has stated concisely and correctly the best modern theory upon some of the more difficult problems of corporate law.

As to some propositions enunciated by him, he cannot expect to find general acquiescence. Upon the contrary, some of his most positive assertions will not only be disputed, but it is to be hoped that the courts will never establish them as authoritative principles. And it is upon these questions that the author has not used that degree of care which the work in hand required. A number of authorities cited by him not only do not support his assertions, but in several instances it is difficult to understand what prompted their citation. C. G. L.

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**SELECTED CASES ON THE LAW OF QUASI-CONTRACTS.** By Edwin H. Woodruff. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Company. 1905. pp. xvi, 692. 8vo.

Twenty years ago there was no law book devoted to the law of Quasi-Contracts. It is believed that the subject was not taught, as such, in any law school. The term quasi-contract may be found here and there in the reports, but it was so unfamiliar to the profession that Professor Keener hesitated long before giving to the collection of cases, which was published in 1888, the title "Cases on Quasi-Contracts." Since the appearance of this book, and the same author's excellent treatise upon the subject, issued in 1893, quasi-contracts has become a term in common use, and the subject now forms a part of the curriculum in twenty or more law schools.

Professor Keener's collection, admirable as it is, is somewhat too voluminous for the time that may be properly given to this subject. For this reason, doubtless, two new collections of cases on Quasi-Contracts appeared last year, one prepared by Professor James B. Scott, the other the subject of this review.

Professor Woodruff's book is essentially an American case-book, only 25 of his 305 cases, or 8 *per cent*, being English, whereas 110 out of 285, or 39 *per cent*, in Professor Scott's book, and 208 out of 377, or 68 *per cent*, in Professor Keener's book, are taken from the English reports. The editor must have had a purpose in discriminating against the English decisions, but he does not disclose it. This exclusion of English cases is the chief criticism to be made upon this book. The cases have been chosen with skill, and are well arranged, and the notes of the editor are accurate and helpful. A student who has mastered this collection of cases cannot fail to have a good grasp of the principles of the subject.

J. B. A.

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**TRAITÉ DE LA LOCATION DES COFFRES-FORTS.** Par M. Jules Valéry. Paris: Albert Fontemoing. 1905. pp. vi, 151. 8vo.

The comparatively new business of furnishing safe-deposit vaults, compartments in which may be hired by the public, is one that is having great development among all the commercial nations. The work of M. Valéry, who is professor of commercial law at the University of Montpellier, is a thorough study of the legal aspects of this business under the French Code, but with such a broad view of fundamentals and constant reference for arguments and illustrations to English and American jurisprudence, as well as to that of continental countries, that the treatise is of value to readers of all nations who are interested in the subject.

Professor Valéry develops first his theory of the nature of the contract between the company and its customer. Legal writers have put forth three theories, namely, that it is a contract of leasing, or one of bailment, or one of